

AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 13, 16, 20, 22, 23, 26, 41, and add new Claim 68 as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A licensing method for an electronic file comprising the steps of:

(o) requesting the electronic file, transferring the electronic file to a first client, and allowing an initial set of permissible actions with the electronic file regardless of a connection between the first client and the server, wherein the first client is a computer device;

(1) requesting a license from a server, transferring a first license to the first client, and allowing a first set of licensed actions by the first client with the transferred electronic file based on the first license regardless of a connection between the first client and the server, wherein the first set of licensed actions is less restrictive than the initial set of permissible actions; [[and]]

(2) transferring the electronic file to a second client; and

(3) upon the occurrence of a license event transfer of the electronic file, requesting a license from the server and modifying the first license, wherein the licensed actions of the modified license are more restrictive than the first set of licensed actions.

2-6. (CANCELLED).

7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The licensing method of Claim 8, wherein step (1) further includes requesting a license from the server upon the receipt of the electronic file.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The licensing method of Claim 1, wherein step (1) further includes receiving a license request from the first client and generating a first license based on an attribute of the first client.

9-12. (CANCELLED).

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The licensing method of Claim 7, wherein the event step (2) is a transfer of the file from the first client to a second client, and wherein step [(2)] (3) further includes requesting a dummy file upon the transfer of the file from the first client to the second client, and receiving the dummy file by the first client and requesting a license from the server upon the receipt of the dummy file that modifies the first license.

14-15. (CANCELLED).

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The licensing method of Claim 7, wherein step [(2)] (3) further includes receiving a license request from the first client, and transferring an empty license to the first client and, upon receipt of an empty license from the server, allowing an initial set of permissible actions with the electronic file, regardless of a connection between the first client and the server, wherein the initial set of permissible actions is more restrictive than the first set of licensed actions.

17-19. (CANCELLED)

20. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The licensing method of Claim 7, wherein step [(2)] (3) further includes receiving a license request from the first client, wherein step [(2)] (3) further includes transferring a modified license to the first client and, upon receipt of the modified license from the server, allowing a modified set of licensed actions with the electronic file, wherein the modified set of licensed actions is more restrictive than the first set of licensed actions.

21. (CANCELLED)

22. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The licensing method of Claim 20, wherein step [(2)] (3) further includes allowing a modified set of licensed actions regardless of a connection between the first client and the server.

23. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The licensing method of Claim [[1]] 68, further comprising the step of:

[[3]] (4) receiving a license request from the second client and transferring a second license to the second client that allows a second set of licensed actions with the electronic file, and generating a second license based on an attribute of the second client, wherein the second set of licensed actions is substantially similar to the first set of licensed actions.

24-25. (CANCELLED).

26. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A licensing method for an electronic file between a server, a first client, and a second client, comprising the steps of:

(1) transferring a first license to the first client that allows a first set of licensed actions on the first client with the electronic file, wherein the first client is a computer device;

(2) upon a transfer of the file from the first client to the second client, modifying the first license, wherein permitted actions of the modified first license are more restrictive than the first set of license actions. wherein the second client is a computer device; and

(3) transferring a second license to the second client that allows a second set of licensed actions on the second client with the electronic file.

27. (ORIGINAL) The licensing method of Claim 26, further comprising the step of:

(o) transferring the electronic file to the first client.

28-29. (CANCELLED).

30. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The licensing method of Claim 27, wherein step (1) further includes receiving a license request from the first client, and generating a first license based on an attribute of the first client.

31-33. (CANCELED).

34. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The licensing method of Claim 30, wherein step (2) further includes receiving a license request from the first client, and transferring a modified license to the first client that replaces the first license and allows a modified set of licensed actions with the electronic file, wherein the modified set of licensed actions is more restrictive than the first set of licensed actions.

35. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The licensing method of Claim 30, wherein step (2) further includes receiving a license request from the first client, and transferring an empty license to the first client.

36-37. (CANCELED).

38. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The licensing method of Claim 30, wherein step (3) further includes receiving a license request from the second client, generating a second license based on an attribute of the second client, wherein the second set of licensed actions is substantially similar to the first set of licensed actions.

39-40. (CANCELED).

41. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A licensing method for an electronic file between a server, a first client, and a second client, comprising the steps of:

(o) requesting the electronic file, receiving the electronic file on a first client, and allowing an initial set of permissible actions on the first client with the electronic file, regardless of a connection between the first client and the server;

(1) requesting a license from the server, receiving a first license from the server, and allowing a first set of licensed actions on the first client with the electronic file based on the first license regardless of a connection between the first client and the server wherein the first set of licensed actions is less restrictive than the initial set of permissible actions; and

(2) upon the occurrence of a license event transfer of the electronic file to the second client, requesting a license from the server, modifying the first license to allow the initial set of permissible actions, and allowing a set of permissible actions on the second client with the electronic file less restrictive than the initial set of permissible actions.

42-46. (CANCELLED).

47. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The licensing method of Claim 41, wherein step (1) further includes requesting a license from the server upon the receipt of the electronic file.

48. (CANCELLED)

49. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The licensing method of Claim 41, wherein the event is a transfer of the file from the first client to the second client, requesting a dummy file upon the transfer of the file from the first client to the second client, and receiving the dummy file and requesting a license from the server upon the receipt of the dummy file.

50-51. (CANCELLED).

52. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The licensing method of Claim 41, wherein step (2) further includes receiving an empty license from the server and, based on the empty license, allowing an initial set of permissible actions with the electronic file, and allowing an initial set of permissible actions regardless of a connection between the first client and the server, wherein the initial set of permissible actions is more restrictive than the first set of licensed actions.

53-54. (CANCELLED).

55. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The licensing method of 41, wherein step (2) further includes receiving a modified license from the server and, based on the modified license, allowing a modified set of licensed actions with the electronic file, and allowing a modified

set of licensed actions regardless of a connection between the first client and the server, wherein the modified set of licensed actions is more restrictive than the first set of licensed actions.

56-57. (CANCELLED).

58. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The licensing method of Claim 30, wherein modifying the first license includes updating a license for a purchase.

59. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The licensing method of Claim 30, wherein modifying the first license includes updating a license for a complaint.

60. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The licensing method of Claim 30, wherein modifying the first license includes revoking the license of the first client.

61. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The licensing method of Claim 58, further comprising the step of:

(o) transferring the electronic file to the first client.

62. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The licensing method of Claim 61, further comprising the step of:

(4) opening the electronic file on the second client.

63. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The licensing method of Claim 61, further comprising the step of:

(4) printing the electronic file from the second client.

64. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The licensing method of Claim 59, further comprising the step of:

(4) deleting the electronic file from the first client.

65. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The licensing method of Claim 30, wherein modifying the first license includes revoking the license of the first client upon user request.

66. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The licensing method of Claim 65, wherein modifying the first license includes revoking the license of the first client upon user request to enable the transfer of a second license to the second client.

67. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The licensing method of Claim 65, wherein modifying the first license includes revoking the license of the first client upon user request to enable the creation of a second license for the second client.

68. (NEW) The method of Claim 1, wherein step (2) further includes allowing an initial set of permissible actions with the electronic file on the second client regardless of a connection between the first client and the server.